Lanka within the frame work of the unity and territorial integrity of that country. The Government is also of the firm belief that the ethnic issue is an internal matter for Sri Lanka to resolve. It is the policy of the Government not to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries.

(b) Does not arise.

People of Indian origin leaving Indonesia

3290. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of businessmen and other people of Indian origin have left Indonesia since the recent outbreak of violence and rioting in that country; and

(b) if so, to what extent Indian business has been affected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) It is true that quite a few Indian nationals based in Indonesia chose to leave Indonesia in the wake of the recent outbreak of violence and rioting. However, most of these persons were dependents and family members. As such, the Indian businesses in Indonesia have been affected only marginally.

Construction of Missile Boat by Pakistan

3291. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Pak building missible boat with Chinese assistance" as reported in the Hindustan Times, dated 2nd May, 1998;

(b) if so, whether the construction of missile boat by Pak has created tension in the region;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to have discussion with Chinese/Pakistani counterparts on this issue; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Government have seen reports regarding the construction of a missile boat by Pakistan with China's assistance. Government have made it clear that such developments pose a threat to India's security and are not conducive to the maintenance of peace and stability in the region.

(c) and (d) Government have consistently indicated India's willingness to engage in a constructive dialogue with Pakistan on all issues, including on "peace and security" issues, based on mutual respect and regard for each other concerns. Government have also conveyed to the Chinese side our concern arising from the profiferted environment in our region and the importance of paying adequate attention to each other's concerns on vital issues affecting each other's security and territorial integrity.

China's Observations on Jammu and Kashmir

3292. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the Foreign Minsters' Conference of five Permanent Members of the Security Council, China, who chaired the meet at Geneva on June 4, 1998, observed that Kashmir issue was central to the crisis in south Asia; and

(b) if so, • the outcome of the deliberations on this issue and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:) (a) and (b) The Joint Communique issued at the end of the meeting of five permanent members of the Security Council in Geneva on 4th June 1998 encouraged India and Pakistan to find

"mutually acceptable solutions", "through direct dialogue, that address the root causes of tension, including Kashmir". Government in its response has reiterted that there is no room for outside involvement of any nature whatsoever in this process.

Setting up of F.P.I. in North-East

3293. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:
SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Food Processing Industries set-up in the country during 8th Plan along with financial allocations, State-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to set up food processing and food preservation Plants in North-east, particularly in Assam during Ninth Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof, including financial allocation and progress made, so far; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Our Food Processing Industries exist in both in the organised and unorganised sectors, and information regarding the number of food processing industries set up in the country Statewise is not centrally maintained. However, from August, 1991 to March, 1998, 4375 Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda (IEMs) involving an investment of Rs. 51,825 crores have been filed for settting up of food processing industries in the country. Of them 556 IEMs envisaging an investment of approximately Rs. 6876 crores have already been implemented. During the same period, 1071 proposals for Joint Venutre/Setting up of 100% Export Oriented Units etc. involving an investment of Rs. 18,649 crores, including foreign investment of Rs. 8756 crores, have been approved by the Government of India. Of these, 206 proposals envisaging an investment of Rs. 2010 crores have already been implemented.

According to the Annual survey of Industries 1994-95 published by the Central Statistical Organisation (Department of Staistics), there were 29407 factoreis in the various sectors of food processing in that year Statewise distribution of those factories is shown in Statement-I (*See* below).

Food Processing Industries specifically relating to Fruit & Vegetables Sector are required to take a licence from the Ministry of Food Processing Industries under the Fruit Products Order (FPO) promulgated under the Essential Commodities Act. There are 4932 Fruit and Vegetable Processing Units which have been licensed under FPO upto January, 1998. Their Statewise details are given in Statement-II.

Under the plan Schemes of the Ministry, financial assistance in the form of soft loan and grant is extended to Non-Government Organisations, Public Sector Undertakings, Private Sector Industries and Research Institutions for development of processed food sectors. These schemes are project-specific and not state-specific. The outlay for the plan Schemes of the Ministry during the 8th Plan was Rs. 217 crores.

(b) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up and food processing units directly in any State. However, under the Plan Schemes financial assistance is provided for promotion of food processing industries in the country including in the North-East. According to the Plan Schemes of the Ministry, difficult areas of the country have been defined & these include the North Eastern Region and these are eligible to get enhanced financial assistance.

(c) and (d) During 1997-98, financial assistance of Rs. 78.49 lakhs has been extended in respect of proposals received from the North-East under the Plan Schemes. In addition, working capital subsidy of Rs. 60 lakhs has been provided